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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/682,738	10/11/2001	Eric Richer	P14617US2	6531

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EXAMINER

PHAN, TAM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2144

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/682,738

Applicant(s)

RICHER ET AL.

Examiner

Tam (Jenny) Phan

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02/19/2003.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 October 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4, 5.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-16 are presented for examination.

Priority

2. This application claims benefit of the provisional application 60/287,734 (05/02/2001).
3. The effective filing date for the subject matter defined in the pending claims which has support in parent 60/287,734 in this application is 05/02/2001. Any new subject matter defined in the claims not previously disclosed in parent 60/287,734, is entitled to the effective filing date of 10/11/2001.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. An initialed and dated copy of Applicant's IDS form 1449, Paper No. 4, 5, is attached to the instant Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Cowden et al. (WO 00/65773), hereinafter referred to as Cowden.
7. Regarding claim 1, Cowden disclosed a personal portal in a data communications network that comprises network entities, the personal portal being associated with a user and comprising: a user profile and at least one context profile (Abstract, page 9 lines 22-28, page 11 lines 22-31, page 22 lines 8-32).

Art Unit: 2144

8. Regarding claim 2, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the user profile comprises a private part that is accessible only to the user (page 15 lines 17-25, page 31 lines 6-15).
9. Regarding claim 3, Cowden disclosed a personal portal of claim 1, wherein the user profile comprises a public part that is accessible by at least one other network entity (page 45 lines 18-27, page 46 lines 1-12).
10. Regarding claim 4, Cowden disclosed a personal portal of claim 1, wherein the at least one context profile comprises personal information associated with the user (Figure 29, page 22 lines 16-32, page 35 lines 33-36).
11. Regarding claim 5, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the at least one context profile comprises personal settings (Figures 8, 12, 29, page 10 lines 12-18, page 11 lines 26-31).
12. Regarding claim 6, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the personal settings comprise information on how information is to be sent (page 32 lines 11-19, page 47 lines 3-16).
13. Regarding claim 7, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the personal settings comprise information on how information is to be displayed (page 25 lines 3-8, page 38 lines 9-18).
14. Regarding claim 8, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the at least one context profile comprises access policies associated with the user (page 10 lines 12-21, page 36 lines 8-21).
15. Regarding claim 9, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the data communications network further comprises at least one site, and each context profile is related to a site (Figure 32, page 10 lines 12-21, page 45 line 28-page 46 line 5).

16. Regarding claim 10, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the context profile is stored within the site (Figure 1, page 29 lines 15-26, page 39 lines 8-11).

17. Regarding claim 11, Cowden disclosed a personal portal wherein the site comprises an access network and the context profile is available only within that access network (Figures 1, 8, and 12).

18. Since all the limitations of the claimed invention were disclosed by Cowden, claims 1-11 are rejected

19. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Gershman et al. (WO 00/54178), hereinafter referred to as Gershman.

20. Regarding claim 1, Gershman disclosed a personal portal in a data communications network that comprises network entities, the personal portal being associated with a user and comprising: a user profile and at least one context profile (Figures 12-13 & 21, page 56 lines 1-12, page 57 lines 4-8, lines 23-33, page 58 lines 14-23).

21. Regarding claim 2, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the user profile comprises a private part that is accessible only to the user (Figure 20, page 56 lines 1-12, page 62 lines 14-19).

22. Regarding claim 3, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the user profile comprises a public part that is accessible by at least one other network entity (page 58 lines 14-23, page 59 lines 19-24, page 63 lines 1-9).

Art Unit: 2144

23. Regarding claim 4, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the at least one context profile comprises personal information associated with the user (Figures 12-13 & 21, page 67 lines 4-8, page 58 line 25-page 59 line 10).

24. Regarding claim 5, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the at least one context profile comprises personal settings (page 56 lines 1-12, page 58 lines 25-page 59 line 24).

25. Regarding claim 6, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the personal settings comprise information on how information is to be sent (page 91 lines 11-18, page 91 line 29-page 92 line 7).

26. Regarding claim 7, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the personal settings comprise information on how information is to be displayed (page 56 lines 1-12, page 57 lines 23-33).

27. Regarding claim 8, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the at least one context profile comprises access policies associated with the user (page 59 lines 12-24, page 62 lines 14-26).

28. Regarding claim 9, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the data communications network further comprises at least one site, and each context profile is related to a site (Figures 21-23, page 92 lines 10-20).

29. Regarding claim 10, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the context profile is stored within the site (Figures 10A-10B, page 57 lines 4-8, lines 24-33).

30. Regarding claim 11, Gershman disclosed a personal portal wherein the site comprises an access network and the context profile is available only within that access network (Figures 10A, 17, page 62 lines 4-12).

Art Unit: 2144

31. Since all the limitations of the claimed invention were disclosed by Gershman, claims 1-11 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

32. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

33. Claims 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cowden et al. (WO 00/65773), hereinafter referred to as Cowden, in view of Kim (U.S. Patent Number 6,546,002).

34. Regarding claim 12, Cowden disclosed a method for updating profiles in a data communications network comprising a number of entities, among them a profile storage that stores profiles and for each profile a list of all on-line entities that store the profile, the method comprising the steps of: updating the profile on an entity; sending the updated profile from the entity to the profile storage; storing the updated profile by the profile storage (Figures 1, 8, 12, 19, 29, 32, page 29 lines 15-36, page 31 lines 25-33).

35. Cowden taught the invention substantially as claimed. However, Cowden did not expressly teach a method of retrieving by the profile storage a list of all on-line entities that store the profile and sending the updated profile to each entity on the retrieved list [synchronization feature].

36. Cowden suggested exploration of art and/or provided a reason to modify the updating profile method with the synchronization feature (page 29 lines 15-19).

Art Unit: 2144

37. Kim disclosed a method of retrieving by the profile storage a list of all on-line entities that store the profile and sending the updated profile to each entity on the retrieved list (Figures 3, 7-10, 13-15, column 7 lines 31-43, lines 52-65, column 8 lines 24-31, column 9 lines 38-46).

38. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the method of Cowden with the teachings of Kim to include the synchronization feature in order to save time and effort (Kim, column 3 lines 10-22) since using the synchronization agent system allows user profile, configuration and settings information to be handled intelligently by network services to export information between networks (Kim, column 3 lines 10-22). In addition, this would also enable users to access their profile data using any computer device from any geographic location so long as they are able to connect to the network (Kim, column 7 lines 18-29).

39. Regarding claim 13, Kim disclosed a method for updating profiles further comprising the steps of: sending from an entity that has gone on-line to the profile storage, a request for modifications done to profiles the entity stores; and sending from the profile storage to the entity that has gone on-line the requested profiles (Kim, column 7 lines 57-65, column 11 lines 50-61, column 14 lines 39-49).

40. Regarding claim 14, Cowden and Kim combined disclose a system for updating profiles in a data communications network comprising an entity that has updated a profile, the system comprising: a profile storage and a number of on-line entities, wherein the profile storage: stores profiles and for each profile a list of all on-line entities that store the profile; receives the updated profile from the entity; stores the updated profile; retrieves a list of all on-line entities that store the profile; and sends the updated profile to each entity on the retrieved list; and the on-line

entities: store the received profile (Cowden, Figures 19, 29, 32, page 29 lines 15-36, page 31 lines 25-33; Kim, Figures 3, 7-10, column 7 lines 31-43, lines 52-65, column 8 lines 24-31, column 9 lines 38-46).

41. Regarding claim 15, Kim disclosed a system for updating profiles of claim 14, the system further comprising an entity that has gone on-line that: sends a request for modifications done to profiles the entity stores; and stores received profiles; and the profile storage further: receives the request; and sends to the entity that has gone on-line the requested profiles (Kim, column 7 lines 57-65, column 11 lines 50-61, column 14 lines 39-49).

42. Regarding claim 16, Cowden and Kim combined disclose a profile storage in a data communications network that further comprises a number of entities that store at least part of a profile, the profile storage comprising a number of profiles and, for each profile, a list of entities that store the profile (Cowden, Figure 29, page 29 lines 15-36; Kim, Figure 3, column 7 lines 31-43, lines 52-65).

43. Since all the limitations of the claimed invention were disclosed by the combination of Cowden and Kim, claims 12-16 are rejected.

Conclusion

44. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Multer et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,671,757) disclosed a system and method for synchronizing devices which couple to the Internet. The system includes a first sync engine on the first system interfacing with data on the first system to provide difference information. A data store is coupled to the network and in communication with the first

Art Unit: 2144

and second systems. A second sync engine is provided on the second system coupled to receive the difference information from the data store via the network, and interface with data on the second system to update said data on the second system with said difference information. Difference information is transmitted to the data store by the first sync engine and received from the data store from the second sync engine.

b. Singh (U.S. Patent Number 6,298,228) disclosed a method and system wherein profiles in personal communication devices are updated by a method called lazy updates or demand-driven updates. Users and service providers may update their profiles as often as they wish. Then, when a call or service request is initiated based on a given profile, the initiator of the call or service request ensures that the profile that is being used is sufficiently up-to-date for the present purpose and, if it is not, updates the profile. Updates that affect future communication, such as changes in address information, telephone numbers or email addresses, happen much less frequently. However, updates such as these must occur at the time the update occurs, rather at some indefinite time in the future. Such updates are typically sent to certain designated key recipients, such as to individuals in frequent contact with the user or to selected services providers.

45. Refer to the enclosed PTO-892 for details and complete listing of other pertinent prior art of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tam (Jenny) Phan whose telephone number is (703) 305-4665. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

Art Unit: 2144

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Cuchlinski can be reached on 703-308-3873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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